

Meeting Minutes – Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission (INAIAC)

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Eiteljorg Museum

500 West Washington Street

Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Voting Members Present:

Chief John Boyd, Nathan Underwood, Shannon-Marie Turner, Erin Oliver, Kenneth “Lone Eagle” Eagle, Tracy Locke, John P. Warren, Dave Liebel, Sarah Ancel, Brittney Sanders, Joe Moser and Cameron F. Clark.

Non-Voting Members Present:

Senator Randy Head

Staff Present:

Brad Meadows (ICRC)

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 pm by John P. Warren, Chair for the Indiana Native American Indian Affairs Commission (INAIAC). With eight voting members and one non-voting member present at the time of roll call the meeting established quorum. Four voting members arrived after the roll call, putting the total number of voting members present to 12.

Invocation:

By the request of Chairman Warren, Commissioner Turner provided the invocation.

Review Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes for the October 15, 2014 commission meeting were reviewed by the commissioners. Chairman Warren requested that they be amended to include his middle initial. Chairman Warren made a motion to approve the meeting minutes contingent upon their amendment. The motion was seconded and all the commissioners were in favor of approving the meeting minutes.

Update from the Indiana Civil Rights Commission

Brad Meadows, Deputy Director for External Affairs with the Indiana Civil Rights Commission provided several updates. He first introduced Kerry Steiner as the new Executive Director for the Commission. He explained that her official start date is Monday, March 3, 2015. Next, Mr. Meadows provided a copy of the financial report. He noted that the report included the invoice from the December 8, 2014 “Native Professional and Friends Night”. There were no questions from the commissioners regarding the report. He then indicated there is a travel voucher for them to sign in their folder. He then explained at the next commission meeting, in addition to their travel voucher for that meeting, they will also receive a travel voucher to sign if they attended the December 8, 2014 “Native Professionals and Friends Night”. The next item for discussion was the INAIAC website. Mr. Meadows explained the website was created in 2012 when the agency was brought under the purview of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission. He explained before this time the agency did not have a website only a webpage within another state agency. He encouraged commissioners to review the website and provide any suggestions for ways to improve it before next commission meeting. Commissioner Turner suggested adding biographies and headshots for commissioners. An individual from the public suggested adding an events page which

provides information on native events and pow-wows throughout the state. There was also discussion as to whether the commission should start a Facebook and Twitter account. Mr. Meadows indicated that many of the cultural commissions, and the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, utilize social media as a means of informing stakeholders. He indicated it would ultimately be at the discretion of the Executive Director and the commissioners to decide whether or not to utilize social media.

Election of Officers

Chairman Warren indicated that per the by-laws, the commission is to elect officers at the first meeting of the calendar year. He then asked if any of the commissioners wished to nominate themselves or another commissioner as vice-chairperson. Commissioner Clark made a motion to nominate Commissioner Underwood. Commissioner Underwood accepted the nomination. Commissioner Oliver seconded the motion to nominate Commissioner Underwood and it was called to a voice vote. All the commissioners were in favor of the motion to elect Commissioner Underwood as vice-chairperson. Chairman Warren then asked if any of the commissioners wished to nominate themselves or another commissioner to serve as secretary. Commissioner Locke made a motion to nominate Commissioner Oliver. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Turner. The motion was taken to a voice vote. All the commissioners were in favor of the motion to elect Commissioner Oliver as Secretary.

Sub-Committee Assignments

Chairman Warren indicated that under the commission's statute there are five study groups. The sub-committees are responsible for providing updates at each commission meeting. He then indicated that he would ideally like to have 3 commissioners serving on each sub-committee. He then opened it up to allow commissioners to volunteer. Following the discussion, the study groups were formed:

Employment

Commissioner Cameron Clark
Chairman John P. Warren

Education

Commissioner Erin Oliver
Senator Randy Head
Commissioner Sarah Ancel
Commissioner Tracy Locke
Commissioner Shannon-Marie Turner
Commissioner Pete Magnant

Civil Rights

Commissioner Dave Liebel
Chairman John P. Warren
Commissioner Chief John Boyd

Health

Commissioner Brittney Sanders
Commissioner Joe Moser
Commissioner Kenny "Lone Eagle" Eagle

Housing

Vice-Chairperson Nathan Underwood

Secretary Erin Oliver
Commissioner Tracy Locke
Commissioner Dave Liebel

Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0 Presentation

Commissioner Joe Moser with the Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) provided a presentation on the Healthy Indiana Plan 2.0. He provided specific information regarding the “opt-in, opt-out” option exclusively available for Native Americans living in Indiana. He then fielded questions from commissioners and the public regarding the eligibility requirements for natives. Chairman Warren requested that Commissioner Moser provide the PowerPoint electronically to Mr. Meadows so that he can post it on the INAIAC website.

Review INAIAC By-Laws

Chairman Warren asked for the commissioners to provide feedback on the commission’s by-laws, which they were asked to review in preparation for the meeting. Many commissioners provided feedback. Ultimately, Chairman Warren requested that Commissioner Clark and Secretary Oliver to share their amended versions with each other while taking into account the feedback from the other commissioners. Once they’ve had an opportunity to do this, he requested that they prepare an amended version of the by-laws and present them at the next commission meeting.

Review Annual Report

Chairman Warren requested that each commissioner review the last annual report. He indicated that it is important for them to understand the issues that the commission studied in 2006, while understanding that these issues may have changed. He gave high praise to the report, and suggested the commissioners to use this as a framework as they begin meeting with their sub-committees.

Public Comment

Jeremy Turner requested help from the commission. He indicated that certain plants and tree barks are needed for historic ceremonies. He asked for support in working with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to get a special permit to harvest these plants. As a result, Chairman Warren requested that Commissioner Clark provide information on how the state handles this and any information regarding the federal requirements to help assist Mr. Turner. Rochelle Owens, with the Federal Department of Agriculture was there to provide information about special housing programs offered to natives. Bruce Brown of the American Indian Center encouraged natives and non-natives attending the meeting to get involved with the American Indian Center.

Next Meeting Dates

Chairman Warren proposed to keep the next two meetings on a quarterly basis. The commissioners agreed that Wednesday afternoon is a good time to meet. The dates decided on were either May 13th or May 20th for the next commission meeting and August 12th or August 19th for the third commission meeting of 2015. Mr. Meadows indicated that he would check with the Eiteljorg to determine if these dates work for them.

Adjournment:

As there was no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 pm.